

THE AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 9, 1858.

AGENTS FOR THE AMERICAN.

For First, Second, Third and Fourth Wards, Henry Johnson, residence 409 K street.
For Georgetown, (The Embroidery.)
For Sixth Ward, George T. Dykes.
For Fifth and Seventh Wards, MONTGOMERY SMALLWOOD.
H. A. BOYER, Agent for Alexandria.

"THE UNION OF THE UNIONISTS, FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNION!"

WE have delayed the issue of the present number of the "American" until now, because we wished to be able to assure our friends in the States, that the paper was placed upon a sure and firm foundation, and would hereafter be regularly issued and promptly mailed to all parts of the Union. We have had difficulties to contend against—opposition of the most vindictive nature—persecutions unequalled and almost incredible—even to the deprivation of bread for our wives and children. But we are the descendants of revolutionary sires—of the men who fought, and suffered and died for freedom, and we are resolved, whatever may be the cost, to preserve and perpetuate our liberties, and to enjoy the privileges bequeathed to us by our fathers, and that our children and children's children, shall glory in the reflection that their fathers lived and died maintaining the right of Americans to rule America.

American! brothers, we call upon you, wherever you are, however distant from us, to come up and help us. We are fighting the good fight, in the very centre of the headquarters of modern democratic corruption—here, at the Capital of the nation, where villains are planned and treason is hatched. Here we stand, a sentinel to faithfully warn you of danger, that you may turn it to expose the rottenness of it. Agents tending to produce a grand consolidated government, in lieu of the pure and simple, and beautiful form which our fathers bequeathed to us.

You, who live at a distance from Washington, have no idea of the state of things here. The power and influence of the general and municipal governments is brought into competition with the freedom of opinion. No man is exempt from persecution who dares to say he is an American, and the man who is suspected of sympathizing with the American party, is pursued with the most vindictive malice—he is deprived of the means of earning bread for his family—the faithful are commanded not to deal with such, but to give their patronage to such as are friendly to the administration and its minions, and every means is resorted to to cripple and ruin them in their business. The government, with its army of office-holders, and hordes of hungry expectants, wields an influence omnipotent with such, and all others who reverence the Almighty dollar more than principle. There are legions of such in our midst—men who will truckle and fawn and flatter and do the dirty work of their masters—traitors to the principles of their fathers—for office. And there are others, who, ignorant of the meaning of the word freedom, interpret it to mean the largest liberty to dip their hands into the Treasury, to swindle the government at will, and to vote for the democratic party, because, under their sway, opportunities are afforded them, to live in ease and debauchery, and crime, unwhipped justice.

We ask you to come and help us, and let this miserable, persecuting, vindictive, blood-thirsty administration, know and feel that there are Americans enough in this Union to preserve it, and to hurl from power and place those who would tamper with and destroy it.

The price of the "WEEKLY AMERICAN," to our city-subscribers, will be Five Cents per week, payable to such agents as we may authorize to collect the same. The "AMERICAN" is richly worth the price asked for it. It will contain more reading matter than two semi-weeklies, and a richer variety both of selected and original articles. We must pay agents and carriers for delivering it at their houses, and we cannot do this for less than five cents. Very many of our subscribers in the city have expressed much satisfaction at the change, and we hope that all will be, at least, satisfied. Rest assured it is all for the best.

Will our subscribers in the Sixth Ward, or some one of them, inquire what has become of our agent in that Ward.

We would like to know about the collection. We understand complaints are made that he cannot collect what is due. We know not how this is—but we do know that we have not received any money for a long time. Will not some of you see that matter made right. You will oblige us.

The American will be sent to the old subscribers of the American Organ, in expectation that they will immediately order the paper and transmit a year's subscription. Those to whom Organs are still due, will be supplied with the American for the unexpired term, provided they will at once remit one year's subscription to the Publisher of this paper.

GEORGETOWN.—Subscribers complain that they do not get the paper. We assure them that the papers are put up, properly directed, and placed in charge of the driver of an omnibus. We have paid, many times, for their transmission, the drivers sometimes refusing to take them unless paid in advance. Shall we send them through the Post Office? We do not mind being made responsible for our own errors or neglects—but we cannot abide, and will not patiently submit, to be made responsible for the neglects or omissions or purposed wrong-doings of others.

We appeal to our friends in Congress to render us such assistance as may be in their power, by commending the AMERICAN to their constituents, and by circulating it among them.

We commend the present number of our paper to our female readers, and feel a sort of pride in laying it before them. They will find on our first page, a very interesting story, and may be sure there are more where we come from. We intend they shall be so pleased with the WEEKLY AMERICAN as to look for it with the same sort of feeling as for the expected visit of a lover, or a husband from a long journey, and all then be sure they will give their fathers no peace till they

VIOLATION OF THE NEUTRALITY LAWS.

No one can have forgotten how exceedingly tenacious of our honor and rights was our government when Mr. Crampton, the British Minister, was charged with recruiting men, or attempting to recruit them in the United States for the British service. Nothing would then appease our anger, nothing satisfy our mortification at the indignity committed, nothing soothe our wounded honor, nothing mend the broken laws but the withdrawal or dismissal of the culprit. Apologies were tendered by the British Minister for foreign affairs, assurances given that no breach of the laws was intended, no disrespect dreamed of, all would not do; Mr. Crampton must go; the broken laws must be repaired, our national honor must be vindicated, and we would let "all the world and the rest of mankind" know that our laws were not to be disregarded with impunity; "nemo impune iussit," was the word.

Well, a certain individual named Walker, who had been treated from the jaws of destruction by a U. S. Naval Officer, because he was an American citizen, came to the United States, claimed to be not a citizen of the United States, but a Nicaraguan, and forthwith set about enlisting men and fitting out a military expedition from this country against a Republic with which we were at peace. His operations must have been known to the government, but he was nevertheless unmolested until everything was completed and he was ready to depart with his troops and munitions of war, when he was arrested and set at liberty on \$2000 bail, and immediately went on his filibustering expedition rejoicing.

After he was gone the administration made a great show of indignation and alertness. They pretended to be very anxious to catch this saucy fellow who had paid no sort of regard to our laws, and sent revenue cutters every where for him, especially where they knew he was not. They gave stringent orders to commanders of vessels to catch him, and censured Captain Chatard because he did not nab him when he had an opportunity to do so. So well did the administration dissemble, that one would have sworn they were in earnest.

Well, supposing them to be so, to mean what they said, Commodore Paulding, one of our best navy officers, took them at their word, and Walker as he could. Doubtless he looked for no less than a letter of approbation and thanks from the Secretary of the Navy by order of the President. What then must have been his astonishment when he found that the administration never intended Walker should be arrested, and to be, in effect, told that he might thank his stars if he were let off without public censure for being too officious and too zealous in the performance of his duty! Conical world this! God and liberty! Hurrah for filibusters and the administration!

The least the administration can now do is to send Walker and his men all back in a public ship, under the command of Commodore Paulding. Wonder if they will do it?

ENCOURAGEMENT OF AMERICAN LABOR.

For some years past the tide of public opinion has been setting strongly towards that great panacea of all public evils, free trade. The "American system," or that system of legislation which looked to the encouragement and protection of American labor, and American productions, once so popular with the people of this country, and for so many years advocated with all his eloquence and energy by "the great statesman of the West," has since about 1845 or '46 been going out of favor and giving place to its antagonistic policy, free trade.

The tariff of 1842, which raised the country as if by magic, from the greatest depression and prostration to the highest state of activity and prosperity, having been enacted by a Whig Congress, became from its birth obnoxious to the Democratic party, except in Pennsylvania, where it was claimed as a Democratic measure, and when the Democrats came into power again in the 28th Congress, was doomed to fall. Upon its ruins was established the free trade tariff of 1846, which even discriminated against American manufacturers and in favor of the foreign.

Under this tariff our manufacturers have been struggling for ten years, our imports in the meantime constantly and enormously increasing, and our own products of the loom decreasing, until the country could no longer stagger under the load of debt, we have been tempted to incur for goods which we ought to have manufactured for ourselves; and now, where are we? Commercially prostrate. One after another our cotton and woolen factories have been compelled to cease work and discharge their hands, while our iron foundries and forges have had to put out their fires, stop their hammers, close up their losing business, and let silence reign where all should have been bustle, activity, the roar of the furnace, and the pounding of the big hammers.

We could not be content with the tariff of '42 which put the whole country in motion; no; we must try "free trade" a while. Well, we have tried it, and if we do not very much mistake the signs of the times, the people have tried it quite as long as they desire. We must now retrace our steps; we must come back to the policy advocated by all parties in 1791, and par excellence, by the old Republican party of 1800, under the guide of JEFFERSON and MADISON, and of the same party at a later day under the lead of MONROE, CLAY, CALHOUN, LOWREY and others. We must come back to the famous COLEMAN letter in 1824. Mr. MADISON made it a point to be inaugurated in an entirely American suit of clothes; and if it were patriotic then to wear nothing that was not of American manufacture, why would not such an example be commendable now?

We look for an interesting discussion of this subject in the Senate very soon. Encouragement of American labor and American fabrics, is now a cardinal principle with all true Americans; not by laying duties for protection, but by so laying those necessary for revenue as to effect the desired result.

From the Republic.
"Who got the money?"—It appears from the investigation of the accounts between the Middlesex Manufacturing Company and their agents, Lawrence, Stone & Co., that eighty-seven thousand dollars was paid to somebody to procure the passage through Congress of last winter's tariff. Eight thousand dollars are stated to have been paid to writers, editors, and printers. Who got the balance?

MORE PROSCRIPTION OF AMERICANS.

We learn that thirty-six Americans were a few days ago discharged from their employment at the Navy Yard, because they are Americans. This is not the avowed reason however; that is, the want of work. But now let us inform the uninitiated, those ignorant of Buchanan's craft, how the thing is done. It is pretended just previous to the time when it is determined to dismiss the Americans, that more hands are needed, and more hands are accordingly employed;—not Americans, no, not one, but Irishmen, or Administrators rowdies from Baltimore. Well, in a few days it is reported that there is not work for the hands, and that some of them must be discharged. But who are discharged, the new and inexperienced hands, the raw rowdies from Baltimore, or the old, experienced and faithful workmen who have families dependent upon their daily labor for their support? The latter, of course; and so they are forthwith furnished with walking tickets, and bid to march out of the Yard.

And so much a man gets for being a native-born American, and believing that that portion of the citizens of the United States who were born upon the soil, have any rights or privileges as such, in their own country. Time was when we were simple and unsophisticated enough to believe that the announcement of such proscription of American citizens, would have stirred up a feeling of indignation in the bosom of every son of the soil, and brought down curses deep and loud upon the heads of those base enough to proscribe their own countrymen to enable them to reward foreigners. But we have lived too long in this sink-hole of political venality and base-born treachery, to expect anything of the kind. We have seen enough to convince us that no outrage however monstrous, no venality however mean and contemptible, no corruption however sordid and ignoble, no persecution however unjust, cruel and malignant, can move the indurated hearts of those who have sold themselves body, soul, head and conscience to the administration.

One of the persistent demands made by the indomitable Netherlands in their bloody contest with Philip 2d, of Spain,—a contest that drenched their land in blood, and in which the most revolting cruelties and wholesale massacres were an every-day occurrence,—was that the foreigners should be removed from the land, and the people should be governed by Netherlanders. This memorable contest for freedom to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences, and to be governed by native-born citizens according to the laws and charters of the land, has excited and will ever call forth the admiration and applause of the lovers of the rights of man in every part of the civilized world. And yet, in that nation of heroes, there were not wanting those base recreants who could join the oppressor, and aid foreigners, tyrants, monsters in human shape, to oppress, massacre, burn, hang, gibbet, and torture upon the rack, and roast over slow fires, their own countrymen, friends, neighbors, fathers and brothers!

And we know from experience that there are among us those who for the sake of enjoying the smiles of tyrants, and the rewards of office,—who, in short, for the sake of a little distinction, puff, and the Almighty dollar, are ready to become the tools of oppressors, and to applaud any act of injustice and cruelty practised upon their own countrymen who are perverse, obstinate, ignorant and wilful enough to believe that Americans are entitled to some rights and immunities in their own land!

A nation, absorbed in trade, commerce, money-making and money-spending, may submit to acts of tyranny and oppression, until they become callous, indifferent, and insensible. We hope we have not arrived at any such condition in this country; though we must say that we do not believe that our forefathers would have tamely submitted to any thing like the proscription and despotism now practised here, from George the 3d and his administrators.

FUNNY.

The hospital of imbeciles and incurables, commonly called "the White House," having sent a special messenger to Philadelphia to get up a tremendous Democratic endorsement of Mr. Buchanan, the principal imbecile in the Hospital, the Custom-House, the Post-Office, the Mint, and the Naval Asylum, at once turned out in vast numbers, which were swelled by the host of expectants of public place, and demonstrated "independence [p] Square. Resolutions prepared here, probably, were brought forward and passed; but the chief performance was the reading of long letters from each of the imbeciles themselves, except the President, approving of what? Why, of the administration measures in regard to Kansas! Wonderful and funny, isn't it? that the administration should endorse and approve the administration! But such a string of stupid, common place letters, we never saw got together. If those imbeciles had sent for two or three smart, wide-awake letter writers at the Capital, they would have written something spicy and readable for them; but not having done so, not one in a thousand can read them without falling off into a sound sleep; the stupor is so decided as to be absolutely contagious.

JEROME DOUGLASS.—That any considerable portion of the Democratic party, North or South, should hesitate to express their unqualified reprobation of the recent conduct of the Illinois Senator, we confess is entirely beyond our comprehension. In our judgment, the sense of political tergiversation can furnish no more glaring instance of deliberate and inexcusable apostasy. His speech of the 1st instant is a premeditated libel on consistency of political principle, an elaborate insult to the Democracy of the Union, and withal, an example of low, paltry, specious demagoguism, such as would disgrace the veriest Pettibugger in the world.—Richmond South, Dec. 28.

Strange as it may seem to the Editor of the South, we are assured by a democrat from the north-west part of Ohio, and his testimony is confirmed by others from the North and West, that at least four-fifths of the democrats of those sections approve and applaud Mr. Douglas's course, and will stand by him in any contest; forced upon him by reason of his taking the attitude he has. Douglas has always had a strong hold upon the Northern democracy, while Mr. Buchanan has been anything but a favorite with the people. The truth is, the people like a decided man, as Douglas always has been, and distrust one who like a quicksand is forever shifting, and is a treacherous foundation to build upon.

We ask the favor of our brother editors in all parts of the country to let their readers know that there is such a paper as the WEEKLY AMERICAN, published at the seat of the Federal Government.

CAUGHT A WOLF, AND DIDN'T INTEND IT.

Mr. Buchanan had no more idea of having Fillbuster Walker caught, though he pretended to set a trap for him, and gave orders to have him seized, than he had of the new Constitution of Kansas being adopted by two or three hundred votes, all told, with the slavery clause in. Both these incidents have turned out so mal-apropos, and so unexpectedly that he is really "in a peck of troubles" about them.

"Misfortunes never came singly," is said. And the poor occupant of the White House hospital finds there is more truth than poetry in this ten-fold line.

We are sorry for the poor man; but what can we do? he will keep blundering in spite of all the advice we can give him. The fact is he has always been blundering. He blundered when he threatened to let out that "one drop of Democratic blood in his veins;" he blundered when he attempted to make a "bargain" with CLAY to support GENERAL JACKSON; he blundered when he wrote the letter denying that there was any such thing as bargain and corruption between Adams and Clay, and then intimated that there was; he blundered at the Ostend conference, and also in turning himself into the Cincinnati Platform; he blundered when he wrote the letter for Forney, and he blundered when he made Forney his enemy; he blundered when he made his cabinet, and he blundered when he quarrelled with one Walker and let another go out of the country, and then out of custody.

"The leaders of the Buchanan Democracy in the House of Representatives are Stephens of Georgia, Cleggman of North Carolina, Faulkner of Virginia, and Clark of Kentucky, all of whom a few years ago were 'Old Line Whigs.'—Exchange.

Yes; and in the Senate, Pearce, Toombs, and Benjamin, 'Old Line Whigs,' and lately Pratt and Jones. There are political epidemics, as well as others; and about four or five years ago the epidemic called "apocrycy," or "renewedism," seized a large portion of the old Whig party—the already diseased portion—and made desolating work. It is astonishing how this disease affects the looks as well as the system of its victims; it leaves them downcast, haggard, low-spirited, and looking as if seized with a moral leprosy; and it eats into the heart, making sad work with it. It used to be said that one christian turned Turk was worse than ten native born Turks; and so it is with Whigs turned Democrats. Look, for example, at Wise, Cushing, Jones and Pratt. Why, a Whig is now their utter abomination; and one christian turned Turk was not content till he invited the Moslems to dance and feast over the grave of their deadliest foe—his own father.

THE DANGER OF A FREE PEOPLE.

A wise and brave people will neither be coerced, nor bullied out of their liberty; but a wise and brave people may come to such; they may degenerate; they may sink into sloth and luxury; they may resign themselves to a treacherous conduct, under a notion of supporting the friends of the government; they may be so stupid as to discover their danger in time, or the courage to resist, when it stares them in the face. The tarsquins were expelled, and Rome remained her liberty, her laws, her religion, and all her rights intact; but Rome remained in bondage. From whence this difference? Machiavelli shall account for it. In the days of Tarquin the people of Rome were not corrupted, in the days of Caesar they were most corrupt. A free people may be betrayed; but no people will betray themselves, and sacrifice their liberty, unless they fall into a state of universal corruption; and when they are once fallen into such a state, they will be sure to lose what they deserve no longer to enjoy.—John Brooke.

NOTE.—When the love of "public plunder" becomes inveterate, and all parties make it the great object of their contests; when base dishonesty prevails, and the "pickings and stealings" are more valuable in the eyes of office holders and those seeking office, than the distinction which the station itself confers; it is a sign that the disease so fatal to all liberty has made its appearance, and if not arrested, will eventually in that "universal corruption" spoken of above. Against this we warn the people of the United States.

BITTER IRONY.

The following stanza from the New Year's Address of the Union, is bitterly sarcastic. Who would suppose the poet had in his eye that "Eye in fine phrenzy robbing" his administration?

"Behold the brilliant galaxy
Now clustering high in power—
A lustreous council for the free,
To guard their precious freedom—
A constellation in whose rays
We trace a semblance bright
Of Stars that shone in early days,
Through Revolution's night!"

Is it possible that Buchanan, Cass, Cobb, Thompson, Toucey, Brown and Black can allow any one living upon Treasury paper, as the writer of this, Mr. McNeerhan is, such a licence? It is not the poet's licence only, but that of the satirists.

CORRIGENDUM.—Picturesque, historical and social; with a sketch of the early life of Napoleon, and an account of the Bonaparte, Paoli, Pozzi di Borgo, and other principal families, suggested by a tour in the island of Corsica, translated from the German of Ferdinand Gregorovius, by EDWARD JOY MORRIS. To say that we have had the pleasure of reading this work, would be expressing truth in very tame language. It is a work of the most lively and intense interest. Full of romance and striking delineations of a wonderful people, totally different from any other on the face of the globe, of whose character we have any knowledge,—abounding in graphic descriptions of a most picturesque country, where the scenery blends together the sublime and beautiful, the most rural with the wildest and most rugged,—it combines the truly romantic with the truthfully historic, in such a manner as to rivet the attention from beginning to the end, and to keep the feelings constantly enlisted.

We have marked several chapters of this work for publication, sure that the readers of the WEEKLY AMERICAN will thank us for furnishing them with even a small portion of the rich and varied repast we have enjoyed.

If our readers are desirous to know what patriotism really is, what an intense and absorbing feeling it is in the bosoms of a people devotedly, ardently, passionately attached to their country and ready to die for her, let them purchase and read this most interesting book.

Many thanks to Mr. Morris for placing it within the reach of his countrymen.

The Legislature of Maryland is now fully organized. J. Sumnerfield Berry is elected Speaker of the House and J. Smith Vaughn, Clerk. E. H. Baldwin has been elected President of the Senate, and Chapman Haywood, Secretary. All Americans.

PLEASANT WEATHER.—We have been having weather more suitable to the month of October than January. This is very pleasant now, but January has been borrowing of March and April, so we may look for squalls, and snows about the idea of March.

THE NICARAGUA EMBROIDERY—PAULDING AND WALKER.

Mr. Buchanan sent a message to the Senate on Thursday, in response to a call of that body, transmitting the correspondence &c., in relation to the arrest of Walker.

The President says that in capturing Walker after he had landed, Com. Paulding committed "a grave error." But he says Nicaragua has sustained no injury by the act.

"This has ensured to her benefit, and relieved her from a dreaded invasion. She alone would have any right to complain of the violation of her territory; and it is quite certain she will never exercise this right. It unquestionably does not lie in the mouth of her invaders to complain in her name that she has been rescued by Commodore Paulding from their assaults."

The President further says, in regard to the neutrality laws:

"My opinion of the value and importance of these laws corresponds entirely with that expressed by Mr. Monroe in his message to Congress of December 7, 1819. That wise, prudent, and patriotic statesman says: 'It is the highest importance to our national character and indispensable to the morality of our citizens that all violations of our neutrality should be prevented. No door should be left open for the evasion of our laws, no opportunity afforded to any who may be disposed to take advantage of it to compromise the interest or the honor of the nation.' The course of setting on foot, or providing the means for a military expedition within the United States to make war against a foreign State with which we are at peace, is one of an aggravated and dangerous character, and early engaged the attention of Congress."

By tolerating such expeditions, we shall soon lose the high character which we have enjoyed ever since the days of Washington, for the faithful performance of our international obligations and duties, and inspire distrust against us among the members of the great family of civilized nations.

But if motives of duty were not sufficient to restrain us from engaging in such lawless enterprises, our evident interest ought to dictate this policy. These expeditions are the most effectual mode of retarding American progress; although to promote this is the avowed object of the leaders and contributors in such undertakings.

It is beyond question the destiny of our race to spread themselves over the continent of North America, and this at no distant day, should events be permitted to take their natural course. The tide of emigrants will flow to the South, and nothing can eventually arrest its progress. If permitted to go there, peacefully, Central America will soon contain an American population, which will confer blessings and benefits as well upon the natives as their respective governments. Liberty, under the restraint of law, will preserve domestic peace; whilst the different transit routes across the Isthmus in which we are so deeply interested will have assured protection.

Nothing has retarded this happy condition of affairs so much as the unlawful expeditions which have been fitted out in the United States to make war upon the Central American States. Had one-half of the number of American citizens who have miserably perished in the first disastrous expedition of Gen. Walker settled in Nicaragua as peaceful emigrants, the object which we all desire would have been attained, in a great degree, accomplished. These expeditions have caused the people of the Central American States to regard us with dread and suspicion. It is our true policy to remove this apprehension, and to convince them that we intend to do them good, and not evil. We desire, as the leading power on this continent, to open, and, if need be, to protect every transit route across the Isthmus, not only for our own benefit, but that of the world, and this upon a free access to Central America, and through it to our Pacific possessions. This policy was commenced under favorable auspices, when the expedition, under the command of Gen. Walker, escaped from our territories, and proceeded to Punta Arenas. Should another expedition of a similar character again evade the vigilance of our officers and proceed to Nicaragua, this would be fatal, at least for a season, to the peaceful settlement of these countries and to the policy of American progress. The truth is, that no administration can successfully conduct the foreign affairs of the country in Central America, or anywhere else, if it is to be interfered with at every step by lawless military expeditions "set on foot" in the United States.

We heartily endorse the portions of the Message we have quoted above, and cannot see how any true American, any high-minded citizen of the United States, any one who looks back with pride to the administration of WASHINGTON, can dissent from them.

BUSINESS OF THE CANAL STEAMERS.—"During the past year the *Canard Line* of Steamers from Jersey City has brought to New York 22,500 tons of freight, most of it being the most valuable goods for the market. In the same time 2,761 passengers have been brought from, and 2,466 taken to Liverpool. The total of specie taken out amounts to the large sum of \$21,022,144 94! Their outward cargoes have been generally large, but not equal to the cargoes of last year.—Exchange.

This line of Steamers is, of course, a British line. It seems to have done a profitable business; and now we should like to know how much freight and specie, and how many passengers an American line has carried in the same time. Our government does all in its power to throw the most profitable portion of our commerce into the hands of foreigners, as its policy is also, to prefer foreigners to Americans in other departments of industry.

KANSAS.

The Free State men held a Convention on the 23d of December, and after much debate, determined, forty-seven to forty-four, to vote for State officers under the Lecompton Constitution, on the 4th instant; so that, if Congress should admit Kansas under that Constitution they would have their own State officers, who would be pledged to take steps immediately to call another convention to form a new Constitution.

The country parties are discussing with some severity the act lately passed by Congress, by which their whole nine months salary is to be paid to members on their arrival here at the commencement of each session.

For ourselves, we confess our inability to see why members of Congress should be paid their salaries in advance, running the risk of death, resignation or expulsion, and other salaries of the government, such as the President, members of the Cabinet, Judges of the Supreme and other Courts, heads of Bureaus, and Clerks in the Departments, should only be paid monthly or quarterly. Our optics may be very obtuse, but we do not at least look through the spectacles of self-interest.

NATIONAL AMERICAN.—A new paper bearing this title has been established at Newark, New Jersey, by Charles K. Bishop. We have received the first number and find it well filled with political, literary and miscellaneous matter, evincing taste, talent and experience. Such a paper was much needed in that section of New Jersey, and we are sure will exercise a wholesome influence. We cordially welcome it as a fellow laborer in the good American cause.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

The proceedings in the Senate during the past week have not been either of an important or exciting character. Mr. Crittenden, on Wednesday, made a brief speech in support of his resolutions in regard to home valuation; that is to say, of fixing the values of goods upon which duties are laid here, in the United States, instead of taking their supposed foreign values, with a view to prevent frauds on the revenue. The resolutions are laid over for the present. Much of the time of the Senate has been occupied in Executive session, upon the nominations of officers of the Navy restored by Courts of Inquiry.

In the House a lively and rather exciting debate has been going on, upon the subject of the arrest and forcible return of Fillbuster Walker and his men. Much, and pretty severe censure has been cast upon the administration and Commodore Paulding for arresting Walker. This has come chiefly from democrats too; for the opposition generally approve the act. Mr. Sickles of New York, supposed to be pretty much of a filibuster on a large scale, defended the action of the administration and Commodore Paulding.

He thought the opinions advocated in the House yesterday were more in accordance with what might be expected in a House of Representatives in Nicaragua, under the control of President William Walker, than with such as became the Congress of the United States.

He regarded the neutrality law as consonant with the wise policy handed down from Washington. Have we forgotten, he said, that Crampton and the British consuls were dismissed for violating the neutrality law of 1820?

Many treaties have been made in conformity with the principles of that law. We have entered into a treaty with New Granada to guarantee and secure the Isthmus transit against unlawful interference.

In reply to the argument that our Government cannot arrest beyond the distance of a marine league from shore, he referred to the treaty for the suppression of the slave trade by sending a force of eighty guns to the coast of Africa. No one has ever contested the right, or doubted the duty of the President to execute that treaty.

A distinction is made in favor of Walker's expedition, that it was a peaceful, unarmed expedition. But in all such cases, the intent must govern. With what intent did Walker set out from our shores? Certainly to make war; to take property and life in Nicaragua, with which we had just made a treaty guaranteeing the security and protection of its public transit route.

All writers on international law call such acts as were committed by Walker and his force unlawful, and denounce them in the strongest terms.

The Supreme Court of the United States has decided that, even when there are no arms on board vessels starting on such an expedition, yet, when the intent to evade or violate the act is plain, punishment must be inflicted.

Nothing has been said of Walker's conduct and condition. A few months ago Walker, when in a destitute condition, was rescued by Commander Davis from a horrid doom, and restored to his friends. Shortly after, in a letter to the Executive, he pledged his honor to do no acts in violation of the neutrality law. He forfeited his pledged honor, and took another gallant band of deluded followers to the scene of former miseries.

Our Government has declared such expeditions illegal, and has pledged its faith to put them down. Shall that faith be forfeited? Shall we be charged with condemning them on paper, but encouraging them in fact? Let not public officers be condemned for doing what they think the will of Government.

We confess our surprise to hear a man landed as an injured hero and patriot, whom we have looked upon as a cold blooded murderer, buccanier and land pirate, and a fugitive from justice.

The Hon. J. H. Hammond of S. C., successor of Senator Butler, appeared in the Senate on Thursday and took his seat. The President's Message in relation to the arrest of Walker was received, but not disposed of. An exciting debate took place upon this message.

In the House the debate upon the President's Annual Message was continued, and speeches were made by Messrs Thayer of Mass., Adrian of N. J., Washburn of Me., and Faulkner of Va.

Both Houses adjourned till Monday: Why? because, the 8th inst. is the anniversary of the only battle, (so one would be led to think) ever fought by Americans in which they were victorious. What were Saratoga, Monmouth, King's Mountain, Yorktown, Chippewa, Lundy's Lane, The Thames, Buena Vista, Cerro Gordo, Churubusco, Contreras, &c? not to be thought of—no, none but New Orleans.

If those who think the times are hard, money scarce, and business of all kinds paralyzed, will promenade up and down "the Avenue" on any pleasant day, he will be compelled to alter his opinion. He will there see nothing but evidences of wealth and prosperity—thousands of those bright celestial beings called by Mahometans, *houris*, dressed in the height of fashion, each loaded with whole cargoes of silks and velvets, laces and ribbons, the most costly furs, spreading out like the mainsail of a seventy-four gun ship of the line. Hard times, forthwith! Where? Not in Pennsylvania avenue, nor the ladies' gallery of the Senate.

"LONG JOHN" is a comical fellow, and something of a wag too. He says he has had two hair-breadth escapes during the last year.

"First, We got arrested for stealing mail bags, and it would have gone very hard with us, if we had been convicted. But as the Judge stood in the same boat that we did, and none of the other judges ever sent their bags back, we got clear, because there was no disinterested United States Judge to try us."

He is a lucky fellow to live where he and the judges are all in the same boat, even though that boat does look mighty bad. We are inclined to think the mail bags he was charged with stealing, must have been Allen's water-tight bags, and that he had saved himself upon them; otherwise the heavy charge would have borne him down.

The late election in Kansas, upon the Constitution, seems to have been the veriest farce ever perpetrated. The voting of the Missourians, openly and above board—the 1400 votes cast at the Oxford precinct, and the 700 at the Shawnee precinct, Johnson county—did not rise to the dignity of a fraud, it was nothing but a farce.

NEWS ITEMS, ETC.

"All is quiet now in Kansas" says a despatch from St. Louis, and the reported conflict between the United States troops and Lane, is not confirmed.

The City Councils of New York, not having confirmed the bargain with the United States for a portion of the Park for a Post Office, it is suggested that the place called the "Five Points" be purchased for that purpose. This is a good suggestion. "Five Points" is the devil's den, and gives the largest Democratic majority in proportion to the number of votes cast of any place in the world.

The Cherokee Indians have established a Supreme Court. The five judges of which it is composed, preside with a grave aspect and dignified demeanor; silence and decorum are preserved by the spectators, and spitting upon the floor and the walls of the room, the filthy habit of our own people, is strictly forbidden